

CLAIMS

1. An operation condition setting system, having plural kinds of recording media, and plural kinds of drive devices setting an operating condition for an optical system to make the operating condition suitable for each of the plural kinds of recording media,

wherein each of said recording media comprises:

a specific read only area respectively storing plural pieces of first operating condition information for the optical system, which cannot be known by said drive devices as the recording medium is new to the drive devices, and which are suitable for the recording medium new to the drive devices,

wherein each of said drive devices comprises:

storage means respectively storing plural pieces of second operating condition information for the optical system suitable for the recording media of kinds known to the drive device;

discrimination means, in the case where said second operating condition information suitable for one of said plural kinds of recording media loaded into the drive device is stored in said storage means, discriminating the loaded recording medium as one of said known kinds of recording media, and in the case where said second operating condition information suitable for one of said plural kinds of recording media loaded into the drive devices is not stored in said storage means, discriminating the loaded recording medium as said new kind of recording medium; and

control means, in the case where the loaded recording medium is discriminated as one of said known kinds of recording media, setting the operating condition for said optical system using the

second operating condition information, and in the case where the loaded recording medium is discriminated as said new kind of recording medium, reading said first operating condition information suitable for the drive device from said specific read only area in the new kind of recording medium, and setting the operating condition for said optical system using the first operating condition information.

2. The operation condition setting system according to claim 1, wherein each of said first operating condition information and said second operating condition information is an irradiation time of said optical system to said recording medium in setting said operating condition.

3. The operation condition setting system according to claim 1, wherein said storage means is read only storage means.

4. A drive device setting an operating condition for an optical system to make the operating condition correspond to each of plural kinds of recording media, comprising;

reading means reading first operating condition information for said optical system, which cannot be known by the drive device for each of the new kinds of recording media, and which is suitable for the new kind of recording medium, from said new kind of recording medium, in a specific read only area of which the first operating condition information is stored;

storage means respectively storing plural pieces of second operating information for said optical system suitable for the recording media of kinds known to the drive device;

discrimination means, in the case where said second operating condition information suitable for one of said plural kinds of recording media loaded into the drive device is stored in said storage means, discriminating the loaded recording medium as one of said known kinds of recording media, and in the case where said second operating condition information suitable for one of said plural kinds of recording media loaded into the drive devices is not stored in said storage means, discriminating the loaded recording medium as said new kind of recording medium; and

control means, in the case where the loaded recording medium is discriminated as one of said known kinds of recording media, setting the operating condition for said optical system using the second operating condition information, and in the case where the loaded recording medium is discriminated as said new kind of recording medium, reading said first operating condition information suitable for the drive device from said specific read only area in the new kind of recording medium, and setting the operating condition for said optical system using the first operating condition information.

5. An operation condition setting method for setting an operating condition for an optical system to make the operating condition correspond to plural kinds of recording media, comprising the steps of:

reading first operating condition information for said optical system, which cannot be known by a drive device for each of the new kinds of recording media, and which is suitable for the new kind of recording medium, from said new kind of recording medium, in a specific read only area of which the new kind of the first operating condition information is stored;

in the case where second operating condition information suitable for one of said plural kinds of recording media loaded into the drive device is stored in storage means, discriminating the loaded recording medium as one of known kinds of recording media, and in the case where said second operating condition information suitable for one of said plural kinds of recording media loaded into the drive devices is not stored in said storage means, discriminating the loaded recording medium as one of said new kinds of recording media; and

in the case where the loaded recording medium is discriminated as one of said known kinds of recording media, setting the operating condition for said optical system using the second operating condition information, and in the case where the loaded recording medium is discriminated as one of said new kinds of recording media, reading said first operating condition information suitable for the drive device from said specific read only area in the new kind of recording medium, and setting the operating condition for said optical system using the first operating condition information.

6. A recording medium comprising

a specific read only area storing each piece of operating condition information which cannot be known by a known kind of drive device and which is suitable for making an optical system of the known kind of drive device access the recording medium.